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1. (Amended) A method of preparing a sequence of consecutively ordered signal samples for transmission, comprising the step of:

for each occurrence of two consecutive [equivalent] identical samples in said sequence, replacing the second-occurring [equivalent sample] one of said two consecutive identical samples with synchronization information.

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2. (Amended) A method of transmitting an incoming sequence of signal samples, comprising the steps of:

for each of said incoming samples,

(i) transmitting said incoming sample if said incoming sample is not [equivalent] identical to [an immediately preceding sample] the sample which immediately precedes said incoming sample in said sequence, or

(ii) transmitting a synchronization pattern if said incoming sample is [equivalent] identical to [the immediately] said preceding sample.

3. (Amended) A method of [transmitting] incorporating synchronization information into an input stream of signal samples [with synchronization information], comprising the steps of:

sequentially monitoring [said] the samples in said input stream to detect a match condition characterized by [the equivalence of] an identity between two consecutive samples in said input stream;

if a match condition is detected, substituting the second-occurring [equivalent] identical sample with a synchronization pattern.

5. (Amended) A system for transmitting a sequence of signal samples received from an input bus, comprising:
- storage means coupled to said input bus for temporarily storing samples;
  - sample comparison means coupled to said storage means for comparing each sample with the [immediately preceding] sample which immediately precedes said sample in said sequence, and generating a match signal when said sample is [equivalent] identical to [the] said preceding sample;
  - output means coupled to said storage means and said comparison means for transmitting each sample in the absence of a match signal, and transmitting a synchronization pattern in the presence of a match signal.

6. (Amended) A method of transmitting an incoming sequence of signal samples and receiving the transmitted samples, comprising the steps of:
- for each of said incoming samples,
    - (i) transmitting said sample if said sample is not [equivalent] identical to [an immediately preceding sample] the sample which immediately precedes said sample in said sequence, or
    - (ii) transmitting a synchronization pattern if said sample is [equivalent] identical to [the immediately] said preceding sample;
  - monitoring said transmissions at a receiving end to detect the occurrence of said synchronization pattern; and
  - outputting a received sample when a synchronization pattern is not detected, and outputting the immediately previous received sample when a synchronization pattern is detected.

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7. (Amended) A system for transmitting an incoming sequence of signal samples and receiving the transmitted samples, comprising:

transmit means for monitoring said sequence of signal samples, transmitting a sample if said sample is not [equivalent] identical to [an immediately preceding sample] the sample which immediately precedes said sample in said sequence, and transmitting a synchronization pattern if said sample is [equivalent] identical to [the immediately] said preceding sample; receive means, coupled to receive said transmission, for outputting a received sample when a synchronization pattern is not detected, and outputting the immediately previous received sample when a synchronization pattern is detected.

#### REMARKS

Applicants respectfully request reconsideration in view of the foregoing amendments and remarks presented below.

Applicants have amended claims 1-3 and 5-7 to more particularly recite the invention.

The Examiner has objected to the drawings for certain informalities.

In response to this objection, applicants submit herewith a set of revised drawings for approval by the Examiner.

The Examiner has objected to the disclosure for an informality on page 4, paragraph 4. Applicants have appropriately revised the disclosure.

The Examiner has objected to the specification under 35 U.S.C.112, first paragraph, as failing to provide an enabling disclosure.

The Examiner states that applicants have not provided any information on why using equivalent samples is any different from the methods known in the art, specifically those described on page 4, third paragraph. The Examiner concludes that the claimed